

ABSTRACT

An elongate hollow rail for a fabric covering for an architectural opening, such as a bottom rail for a fabric roller blind or a top or bottom rail for a roman shade, having an upper portion with a lengthwise upper opening in the top of the rail and being characterized by a pair of lengthwise upper locking shoulders in the interior of the upper portion on walls on opposite widthwise sides of the upper opening and/or the upper locking shoulders being wedge-shaped and pointing inwardly of the upper portion and away from the upper opening, and/or the wall on a first widthwise side of the bottom rail extending above the wall on the opposite second widthwise side of the bottom rail about the openings and a method for attaching a fabric to a locking shoulder within an elongate hollow rail for a fabric covering for an architectural opening having a lengthwise upper opening in an upper portion of the rail, by the steps of securing the rail to a stationary support structure with its lengthwise upper opening facing upwards, overlaying the rail and its upper opening and walls with a fabric having a stiff straight marginal edge, so that the stiff marginal edge lies parallel and adjacent to a wall on a widthwise side of the rail and the remainder of the fabric extends widthwise away from the stiff marginal edge and the rail and its other wall, pushing the fabric into the upper opening by rolling the circumferential edge of a fabric inserting wheel against the top of the fabric and lengthwise along, and inwardly of, the upper opening while allowing the stiff marginal edge to move widthwise towards the upper opening but preventing the remainder of the fabric from moving widthwise towards the upper opening; and then, pushing the stiff marginal edge into the upper opening so that the marginal edge engages the locking shoulder by again rolling the fabric inserting wheel against the top of the fabric and lengthwise along, and inwardly of, the upper opening while preventing the remainder of the fabric from moving widthwise towards the upper opening.

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